

Amendments to the Specification:

Amend the paragraph beginning at line 6 of page 5 as follows:

A replaceable cutter 58 including the sharp edge 42 is mounted on the blade carrier 50. The replaceable cutter 58 is coupled to and carried along with the blade carrier 50 by drive pins 60 mounted fixedly in the blade carrier 50 and engaged snugly but removably in corresponding holes 62 in the replaceable cutter 58. The cutter 58 can be removed and replaced by disassembling the blade pivot joint 40, allowing the replaceable cutter 58 to be lifted free from the pins 60. Ordinarily the pivot joint 40 holds the blade carrier 50 close enough to the jaw 36 so that the replaceable cutter 58 is held firmly against the blade carrier 50.

Amend the paragraph beginning at line 30 of page 12 as follows:

The inner channel frame member 131 is part of the handle 32, and a similar channel frame member 124 is part of handle 34. The channel 131 includes a channel base portion 142 and a pair of parallel side wall portions 134. The side wall portions 134 extend the entire length of the handle 32 and support a molded shell portion 198 as an intermediate handle portion fitting around the channel member 131 and interlocking with margins 200 of the side walls 134 of the channel member 131. A shell portion 199 of similar construction, although different in shape, is used in the handle ~~34~~34, as shown in FIG. 12.

Amend the previously amended paragraph beginning at line 17 of page 13 as follows:

A respective comfortable cushioning portion including a grip cushioning layer 204 extends along each of the outer margins 206 of the shell layers 198 and 199 as a cushioning portion of each handle 32 and 34. The grip cushioning layer 204 is preferably made of a tough, yet resiliently soft and rubber-like thermoplastic elastomeric material such as those available from Advanced Elastomer Systems, of Akron, Ohio, under the trademark Santoprene®. A portion 207 of the comfortable grip cushioning layer also extends along and covers a portion of an outer face 208 of the shell portion 198. The grip cushioning layer portion 204 is preferably attached to the channel member 131 or 124 and the shell layer 198 or 199 by chemical bonding and adhesion resulting from the process of molding and by being shaped to interlock mechanically with the shell layer 198 or 199 at certain places. For example, openings may be provided in the side portions of the shell layer ~~198~~198 or 199, and

the side walls 134 and ~~196~~125, to provide for mechanical interlocking, as shown with respect to the handle 32 in FIGS. 21, 22, and 23.

Amend the paragraph beginning at line 20 of page 14 as follows:

A tool blade member mounted pivotably within one of the handles 32 and 34 at its outer end 78 or 80 may be held securely in its extended position by the action of a latch mechanism including the respective latch lever 90 or 92 attached to the main channel member 131 or 124 of the respective handle by a respective latch lever pivot 220. The handle 32 and latch release lever 90 are shown in FIGS. 9, 24, and 25, and the latch mechanisms are similar in the handle 34. The latch levers 90 or 92 are preferably cast or formed by powder metallurgy methods.